

Green, LindaE

From: 42499-40721832@requests.muckrock.com
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2017 3:18 PM
To: FOIA HQ
Subject: Freedom of Information Request: EPA Koonin

August 25, 2017
Environmental Protection Agency
National Freedom of Information Officer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (2822T)
Washington, DC 20460

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. §552 et seq. ("FOIA"), I am requesting copies of the following agency records and other public records under your agency's control:

(1) all correspondences, which include but are not necessarily limited to, written or electronic communications, letters, emails, attachments, phone logs, instant messages, instant communications, texts, calendar appointments, and other documents transmitted to or transmitted by Administrator Scott Pruitt, Chief of Staff Ryan Jackson, Associate Administrator Samantha Dravis, Deputy Chief of Staff Byron Brown, Mandy Gunasekara, Brittany Bolen, and Layne Bangerter that contain the word "Koonin."

I also request that you state the specific legal and factual grounds for withholding any documents or portions of documents, should you withhold any. Please identify each document that falls within the scope of this request but is withheld from release. If requested documents are located in, or originated in, another installation or bureau, I would request that you please refer this request or any relevant portion of this request to the appropriate installation or bureau.

To the extent that the information is available in electronic format, I would prefer to receive that information via email or CD, particularly if providing the information reduces the time or expense involved. Otherwise, I will expect to receive the information in paper form.

This information is being sought on behalf of ThinkProgress.org (an online news service) for dissemination to the general public and this request is not being made for commercial purposes. I am a reporter with ThinkProgress, an online news site with a national audience seeking these documents entirely for news-gathering purposes.

Please provide the records requested above regardless of your fee waiver decision. In order to expedite a response, ThinkProgress will, if necessary, pay fees in accordance with FOIA regulations for all or a portion of the requested records. Please contact me before doing anything that would cause the fee to exceed \$50.

I also request expedited processing. Release of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the Government and the EPA, which have broad reaching impact on the health, safety, and well-being of the American public and are currently a subject of national news value. There have been numerous media reports that the current EPA's leadership is trying to reshape the scientific debate on climate change through a "red team/blue team" exercise.

Mr. Koonin is being reported as being a candidate to lead this exercise. Disclosure of this information is urgently needed to help the public understand how and why Mr. Koonin is being considered a candidate to lead a scientific debate where the outcome may have a profound effect on the EPA's mission to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the public.

I look forward to your reply within 10 business days, or, at the latest, 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Thank you for your cooperation with this request. I am willing to discuss ways to make this request more manageable to your office. Please do not hesitate to contact me at the number above or on my direct line at 202-478-6333 or rkoronowski@thinkprogress.org

Sincerely,

Ryan Koronowski

Filed via MuckRock.com

E-mail (Preferred): 42499-40721832@requests.muckrock.com

Upload documents directly: https://www.muckrock.com/accounts/agency_login/environmental-protection-agency-75/epa-koonin-42499/?uuid-login=2ece7859-33c4-44b8-a6fd-5216e34d280c&email=hq.foia%40epa.gov#agency-reply

Is this email coming to the wrong contact? Something else wrong? Use the above link to let us know.

For mailed responses, please address (see note):

MuckRock

DEPT MR 42499

411A Highland Ave

Somerville, MA 02144-2516

PLEASE NOTE: This request is not filed by a MuckRock staff member, but is being sent through MuckRock by the above in order to better track, share, and manage public records requests. Also note that improperly addressed (i.e., with the requester's name rather than "MuckRock News" and the department number) requests might be returned as undeliverable.
